

# **Giles Dixon**

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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### **GRANT THORNTON CANADA**

**Toronto**

#### **Financial Services and Virtual Asset Risk Advisory**

Senior Manager

October 2019 – Present

Manager

October 2018 – October 2019

Senior Associate

January 2017 – October 2018

- As the leader of the firm's Virtual Asset Risk Advisory Centre of Excellence, I am responsible for developing and providing compliance and risk management solutions to virtual asset service providers across Canada.
- As a senior member of the firm's anti-money laundering (AML) and forensics practice, I also play a key role working with senior leadership to design and execute an approach and strategy to building Grant Thornton's financial services risk management practice broadly, regularly working with banks and other regulated financial institutions.

### **Example client engagements**

#### **Leading virtual currency exchange**

- Led the design and development of the client's AML/ATF risk assessment to align with Canadian regulatory requirements as well as similar models around the globe in jurisdictions relevant to the client's operations.
- Played a leading role in the review and enhancement of the Company's AML policies and procedures to ensure they meet, for the Canadian operations, the requirements of emerging industry practices and anticipated regulations.
- Developed a tool for the quantification of money laundering risk associated with individual virtual currencies, to be used by the entity when listing new assets, aligned to proposed regulatory guidance in the U.S. and other key jurisdictions such as Japan, the U.K. and Australia.
- Delivered a comprehensive research document aimed at assisting the client in understanding the regulatory requirements of virtual asset service providers in Canada and around the globe.

#### **Leading global virtual currency exchange**

- Assisted a leading virtual currency exchange with the design and execution of the organization's AML program.
- I was able to apply best practices, developed through my exposure to multiple industry leading virtual asset service providers, in building and developing key elements of the organization's AML program. Required the ability to develop strong relationships across multiple countries, working together to deliver the program on time, and in compliance with relevant jurisdictional regulatory bodies, including Canada and the U.S.
- Worked directly with senior leadership, led the design and execution of the AML risk management target operating model and risk assessment processes from inception to completion.

#### **Top-tier financial institution**

- Worked with the Chief AML Officer and executive leadership team as part of a large-scale transformation program to remediate regulatory findings.
- Worked with multiple stakeholder groups to define a target operating model for the assessment of AML risk across the Bank. Required an assessment of current state vs. gaps against regulatory

requirements, coordinating with various groups including Compliance, Technology and Operations, and the business.

- Presented the final state target operating model to the Board. Recommendations approved and implemented.

### **Thought leadership development – virtual assets**

- I regularly collaborate with industry professionals to produce thought leadership around the topic of financial crime risk management in the virtual asset industry.
- Co-authored and published a piece of thought leadership with the CCO of a major cryptocurrency exchange on malicious mining and the considerations for effective risk management. The article placed top five in ACAMS Today's 'Top Reads for the Anti-Financial Crime Professional, 2018'.
- Presented at multiple national forums and conferences as a speaker on the topics of cryptocurrency strategy, risk management, regulation, and compliance.
- I am the co-host of a podcast dedicated to discussing topics related to financial crime risk management, and virtual assets.

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### **GRANT THORNTON UK Financial Services Advisory**

Senior Consultant  
Consultant

**London, UK**

March 2016 – January 2017  
April 2015 – March 2016

### **Key client engagement**

#### **Top tier bank – global financial crime transformation program**

Engaged by a leading bank's Global Banking and Markets business to help transform their Financial Crime Risk Management practices - the industry's largest financial crime transformation program.

- Approached by the Program Director to manage two of their key projects, overseeing a team of business analysts.
- Led the mobilization of a multi-million pound transformation program re-structure. Worked with executive stakeholders to define and agree the new program design, book of work sponsorship and timeframes for delivery. Program mobilized inside aggressive timeframes, realizing a 20% operating cost saving target.
- Defined a new target operating model for the orchestration of client investigations which included defining and agreeing the target operating model across multiple product areas. Led the implementation strategy and planned the execution. Recommendations presented to and approved by Board - multi-million pound savings realized.

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### **ISBAN GLOBAL SERVICES – SANTANDER BANK**

**Senior Consultant** – Process Design - Digital Channels  
**Consultant** – Process Design - Digital Channels

**London, UK**

August 2013 – April 2015  
August 2011 – August 2013

- Led the design and execution of over 20 projects for the Bank's digital channels, including 5 of the Bank's most high profile digital projects – increased online banking usage in year one by 20%.
- Worked as part of a team to drive efficiencies in the Bank's online and call centre channels. Designed solutions with multi-million pound projected cost savings. Realized double-figure percentage cost reductions.
- Played a pivotal role in Santander's planned acquisition of 318 Royal Bank of Scotland branches. Oversaw a team of 6 consultants – successfully maintained progress of over 50 deliverables throughout the year – all projects delivered on time and to budget.

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**MICHAEL PAGE INTERNATIONAL**  
**Consultant, Financial Services**

**London, UK**  
September 2010 – July 2011

- Responsible for creating and developing team strategy. Met or exceeded all targets.

## **EDUCATION**

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**DURHAM UNIVERSITY, UK**  
BA Business Studies – **First Class Honours**

July 2007-July 2010

- **Academic Achievement Award** for obtaining the highest academic grade on the course.

## **PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS**

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- Board Member: Association of Certified Financial Crime Specialists (ACFCS), Toronto Chapter
- Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist (CAMS)
- Certified Cryptocurrency Investigator (CCI)
- Certified Bitcoin Professional (CBP)